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THRU : Chief, D/S
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Evaluation of US Military Attache Reports

1. Soviet Arctic.

- a. The attache reports are useful to S/OM/SSO primarily because they furnish us with information which we would not ordinarily receive.
- b. Same value as "a".
- c. Seldom applicable, except from Scandinavian countries.

We have no specific reports to cite, but some examples of reporting that have been of particular value have given detailed information on construction of ships and characteristics of vessels that use the Northern Sea Route, ship movements in ports outside the Soviet Bloc, and interesting details on Soviet personalities who visit foreign countries.

They also provide specialized coverage of the Soviet press, especially describing economic activities in the Soviet Arctic.

2. Civil Defense.

- a. Attache reporting on civil defense in Sovbloc countries has been infrequent but of high value. More reporting rather than less would be desirable.

Examples:

1. Air Attache Hungary reported on air raid shelter construction in Budapest (AA, Budapest, IR-156-56, 2 Mar 56, CONFIDENTIAL).
2. Army Attache Hungary reported on civil defense drill using uniformed troops (OArmyA, Hungary, R-528-55, 2 Nov 55, SECRET).

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3. Attache's in Moscow report on paramilitary DOSAAF which is extensively involved in civil defense, have obtained sample gas masks and civil defense literature. (USN Attache, Moscow, IR 243-55, 13 Dec 55, CONFIDENTIAL) (AA Attache, Moscow, IR 391-55, 17 Jun 55, CONFIDENTIAL; including photos of civil defense exhibit).

b. Attache reporting from non-bloc areas of value for the c.d. mission, especially from [REDACTED] 25X6A

Examples:

1. Army Attache, Greece has been instrumental in obtaining significant information in good volume on civil defense organization and construction in European Satellites. (Army A, Greece, R-276-56, 12 Jun 56, CONFIDENTIAL).

2. Army Attache, Rome has also reported on civil defense organization and construction in European Satellites in good volume. (OARMA Rome, R-684-54, 30 Dec 54, S/NOFORN).

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